

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 00836 070602Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 /063 W
-----118446 070605Z /14

R 070510Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9468
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0836

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, LA, TH, IN
SUBJECT: LAO-THAI AND LAO-INDONESIAN RELATIONS

1. AN INDONESIAN DIPLOMATIC SOURCE TOLD US AUGUST 5 THAT AN OFFICIAL IN THE "PROVINCIAL DIVISION" OF THE LAO PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE HAD RECENTLY TOLD HIM THAT THE LAO GOVERNMENT PLANNED TO SEND STUDENTS, BUSINESSMEN, AND PARTICULARLY BUDDHIST PRIESTS TO THAILAND TO ACT AS "AGENTS." OUR SOURCE SAID THAT HIS SOURCE DID NOT SAY WHAT PURPOSE -- INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, SUBVERSION, OR WHATEVER -- THE AGENTS WERE TO SERVE. OUR SOURCE ALSO SAID THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHY A LAO OFFICIAL WOULD TELL HIM OF SUCH A PLAN.

2. THE SAME SOURCE ALSO TOLD US THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT THE LAO WERE REFERRING TO THE INDONESIANS AS "GOOD IN WORDS BUT BAD IN DEEDS." SUCH COMMENTS WERE REPORTEDLY PROMPTED BY THE LAO BELIEF THAT SOME OF THE INSURGENT BANDS IN SOUTHERN LAOS WERE LED BY INDONESIAN-SPEAKING
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OFFICERS. OUR SOURCE SAID THAT SOME FORMER ROYAL LAO ARMY PERSONNEL HAD BEEN TRAINED IN INDONESIA AND COULD THUS HAVE LEARNED SOME BAHASA INDONESIA. HE SURMISED THAT SOME OF THESE EX-SOLDIERS COULD HAVE JOINED THE INSURGENTS AND MIGHT BE USING THEIR EXOTIC LANGUAGE SKILL AS A TACTICAL SECURITY MEASURE.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO WAY OF CONFIRMING ANY OF
THIS. WE PASS IT ON IN THE HOPE IT MAY FIT IN WITH OTHER
INFORMATION COLLECTED ELSEWHERE.
ROBERTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 07 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780890/aaaacxjt.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: cf539a67-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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